

REMARKS

A typographical error as to reference numeral 19 has been corrected at page 11 of the specification.

The 35 U.S.C. §101 rejection has been cured in the new claims reciting the computer-readable medium having a computer program.

The Examiner rejected claims 21-25 and 31-36 under 35 U.S.C. §102 as anticipated by Hu. Claims 26-30 and 37-42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as unpatentable over Hu further in view of Nakamura.

New claim 43 distinguishes over Hu at least for the following reasons. Claim 43 recites at least a first print data server with a supplying computer module supplying print data and a reading computer module also being provided as a computer-readable medium having a computer program that reads the supplied print data. Hu is not directed to a print data system and does not disclose use with print data and a print data server. Processing of print data is a complex work flow by which the print data are processed by different computer programs and thereby modified, partially deleted or added by additional control data for downstream processing steps.

Claim 33 further distinguishes by reciting selecting one of the three transmission modes listed in the claim and wherein the selection of the transmission mode is controlled by at least one control parameter predetermined in a print job manager and wherein the reading computer module and the supplying current module cooperate via the at least one control parameter. Although Hu describes at column 6, lines 19-27 and Figure 14 that traffic is determined by consulting an experienced routing table (ERT), Hu just explains the characteristics of this ERT by which a proper switching path can be selected to forward the traffic with proper QoS

measurement (column 6, lines 21-23). However, in this disclosure there is no teaching as to who determines the contents of the ERT and whether they may be modified and whether they are bound to devices and/or processes. Thus there is no selection of at least one of the three transmission modes by a print job manager with at least one control parameter.

Claim 43 further distinguishes at least by reciting also controlling the selecting of the transmission mode for one of the three indicated transmission modes dependent on a print job. Hu does not mention selection of a transmission mode dependent on a print job and does not discuss print data. Hu also does not disclose a print job manager as discussed above.

With the invention of claim 43, a flexible determination is provided for control of a transmission mode dependent on the print job. Therefore the transmission mode can be adapted and configured individually print job wise.

Dependent claims 44-50 distinguish at least for the reasons noted with respect to claim 43 and also by reciting additional features not suggested.

Independent claim 51 distinguishes in a manner similar to claim 43 but also recites the print data being supplied in blocks in a block format predetermined by the supplying computer module and also recites the storage and segments of print data of a print job being already further processed via the reading computer module and a subsequent process while subsequent print data of the same print job are still being stored. This is also not disclosed in Hu.

Independent claim 52 distinguishes in a manner similar to claim 43. Dependent claims 53-59 distinguish at least for the reasons claim 52 distinguishes.

Although the secondary reference Nakamura was cited against some of the previous patent claims, and although Nakamura discloses a printing system by which

data are exchanged between a print server and other components like a scanner or printers, Nakamura is talking about storing print data in order to support a so-called "pull-print" printing mode by which print data are stored in a specification location in the network and are not retrieved on demand by a printer (see column 1, lines 29-41). However, the invention of claim 43 recites control of the selection of the transmission mode by at least one predetermined control parameter of a print job manager and also by reciting controlling the selecting of the transmission mode dependent on the print job. These features are not present in Nakamura and therefore do not satisfy the deficiencies of the primary reference Hu.

The same is true of the other independent and dependent claims with respect to Nakamura.

Allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



(Reg.No. 27,841)

Brett A. Valiquet
Schiff Hardin LLP
Patent Department
6600 Sears Tower
Chicago, Illinois 60606
Telephone: (312) 258-5786
Attorneys for Applicants.
CUSTOMER NO. 26574